

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13-34 are pending in this application. All of the pending claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Bonnell. None of the claims is currently amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Office asserts that Agarwal teaches use of a loop back address in an analogous manner with that recited in the pending claims. As recited in claim 1, that limitations is “the network device having a loop back address via which the downloaded network management application accesses local storage and resources using a local network protocol stack and local network protocol parameters.” Claims 11, 22, 31, and 32 recite similar language. It should be noted that this is an active use of the loop back address because storage access and resource access procedures require sending and receiving of data. Note also that the network management application is either the sender, the receiver, or both. In contrast, Agarwal teaches a passive use where “the system monitors loop back operations.”¹ Further, Agarwal clearly teaches that the agents 30-40 only monitor loop back operations.² There is no teaching or suggestion in Agarwal that a network management application utilize a loop back address to access local storage and resources. Therefore, the cited combination would not actually result in the claimed invention, but at best a management application with strictly passive monitoring capability. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 11, 22, 31 and 32 is therefore requested. Claims 2-7, 9, 10, 13-21, 23-30, 33 and 34 are dependent claims which further distinguish the invention, and which are allowable for the same reasons as their respective base claims.

¹ Col. 4, lines 27-28

² Col. 6, lines 31-32

For the reasons stated above, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' Attorney to discuss any matters which might expedite allowance of this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date

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